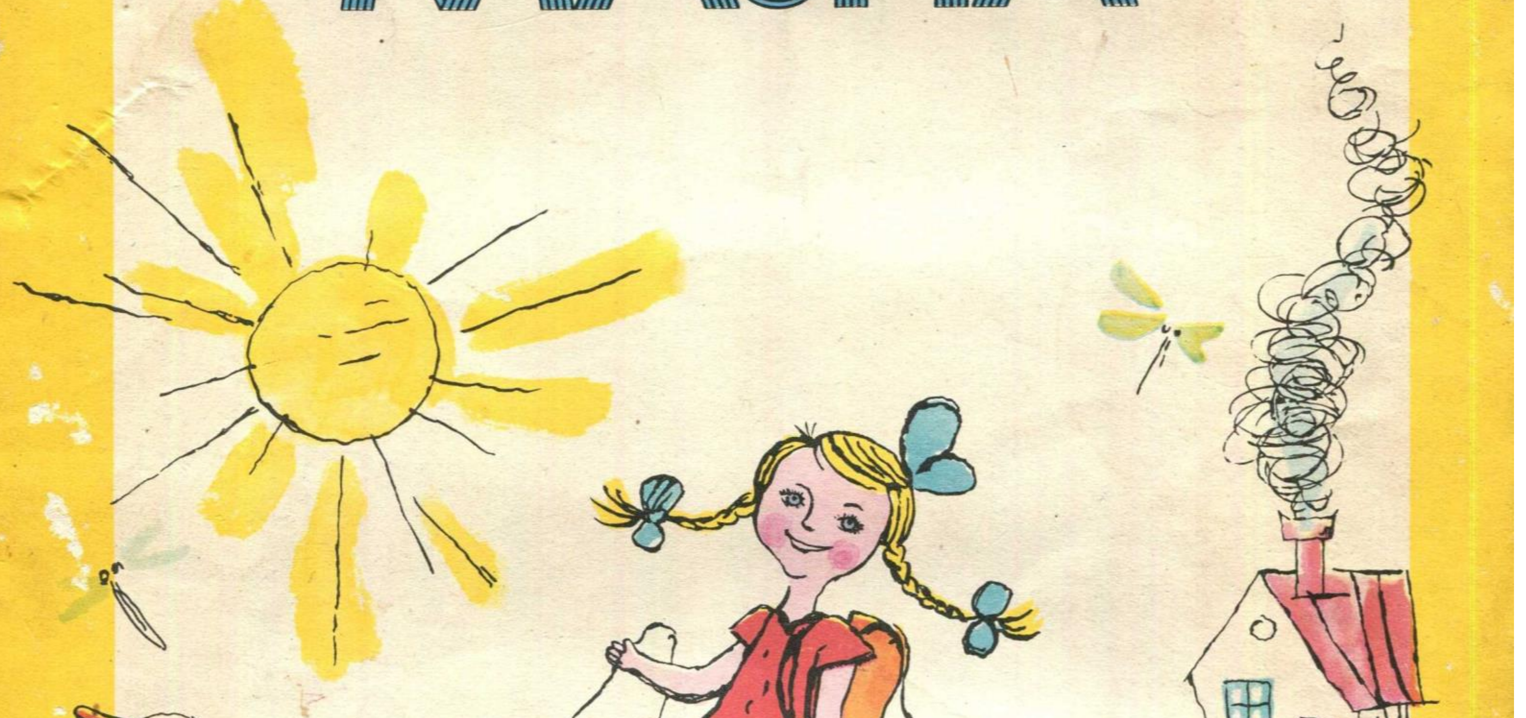
CLEVER MASHA

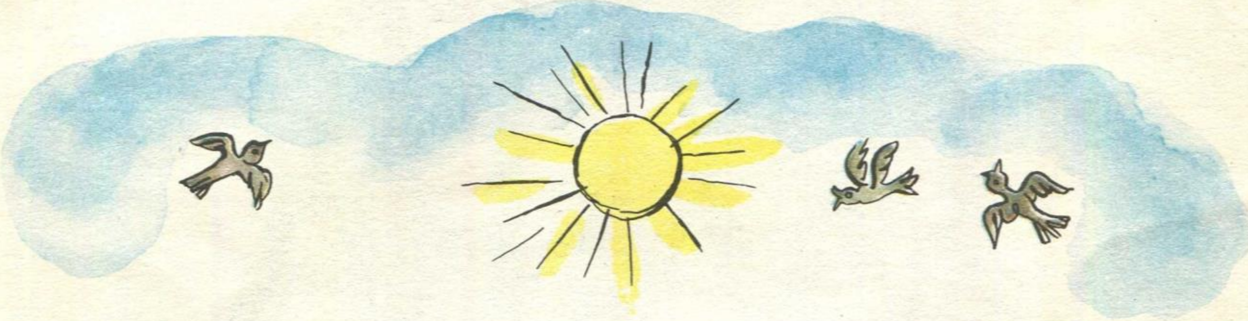


CLEVER MASHA

STORY BY N. GUERNET

ILLUSTRATED BY B. MALAKHOVSKI

BROWN WATSON LTD. LONDON.



When you've read this book you'll see what a clever girl Masha was. After all, if she wasn't that clever she would never have had a book written about her, would she? Especially a book with so many pictures in it.

When Masha was still a tiny baby in a crib she would wave her rattle with one hand and shoo away mosquitoes with the other. Her mummie and daddy and grandma and all their friends and relations saw this and said: "Ah! Masha is such a very clever child!"

Too bad the same cannot be said about Masha's little brother Vitya. He is not very clever. But you will see that Masha makes up for it.

Now what about Bobik, Robik, Lobik and Zubik? Why, they are the very best, the fastest, the most obedient dogs that ever lived. See if you don't agree after you've read this book.

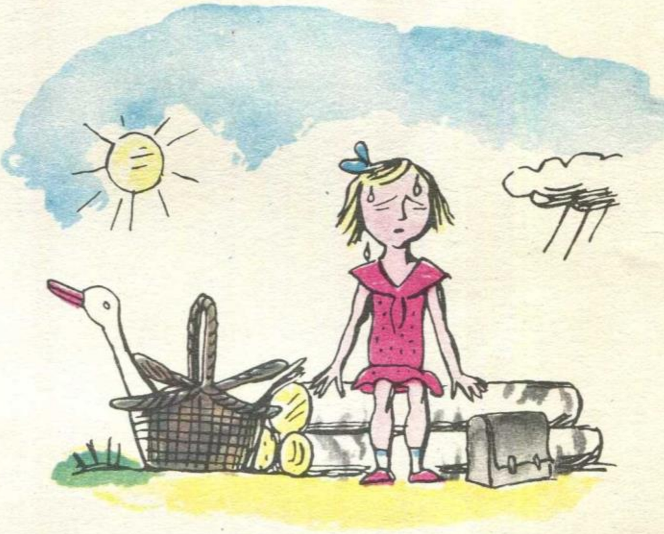
We shall tell you some of the stories, while some of them are for you to tell after you've looked at the pictures.

MASHA AND THE HEAVY GOOSE

Grandma sent Masha's mother this very big goose. And she never stopped to think that it would be too heavy for Masha to carry. Because she knew that if Masha got tired she would certainly think of a way out.

As you see, Grandma was right.

1 . . . .



2 . . . .

3 . . . .

4 . . . .

MASHA AND THE MAGNET

1. "Oh, dear!" cried Grandma. "I dropped my best needle in the sand."

2. "Don't move, Grandma!" Masha shouted. "Stay right where you dropped it. We'll find it in a jiffy."

3. "How can you find a needle in the sand? Don't be silly," said Grandma.

4. "Here's your needle, Grandma!"

MASHA AND THE AWFUL FLIES

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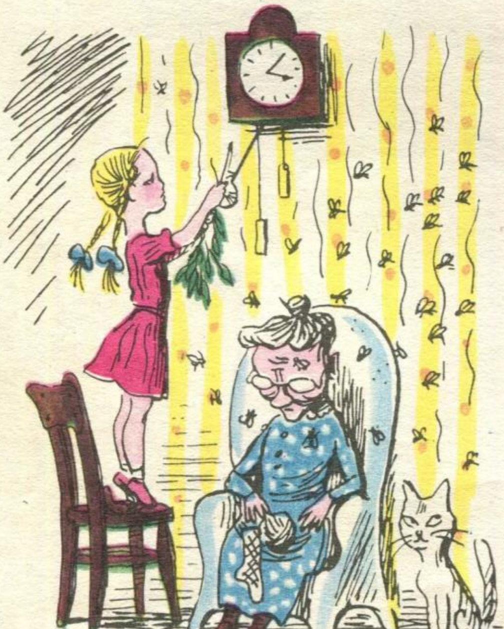
2 . . . .



3 . . . .

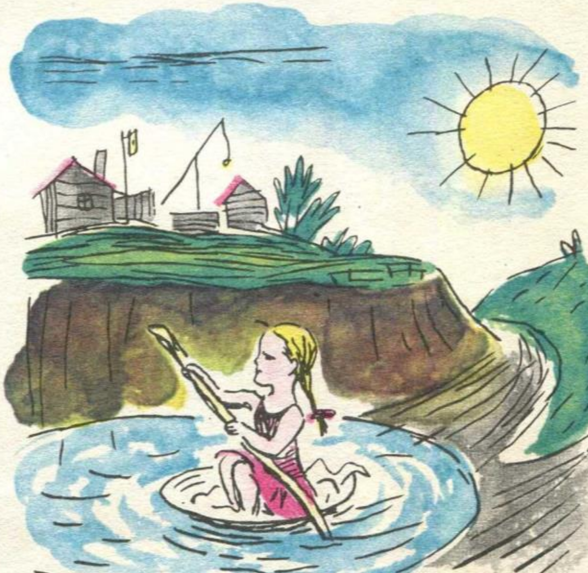
4 . . . .

MASHA RINSES THE CLOTHES

1. On a sunny day it's nice to rinse clothes in the river.

2. Suddenly, it started to rain. "Oh, no, I'm not going to get wet!" said Masha.

3. Then the sun came out again. Masha had fun rinsing the clothes.



4. There was a huge rain puddle in the middle of the road. "If you can't walk across it, sail across it," said Masha.

MASHA DRIES THE CLOTHES

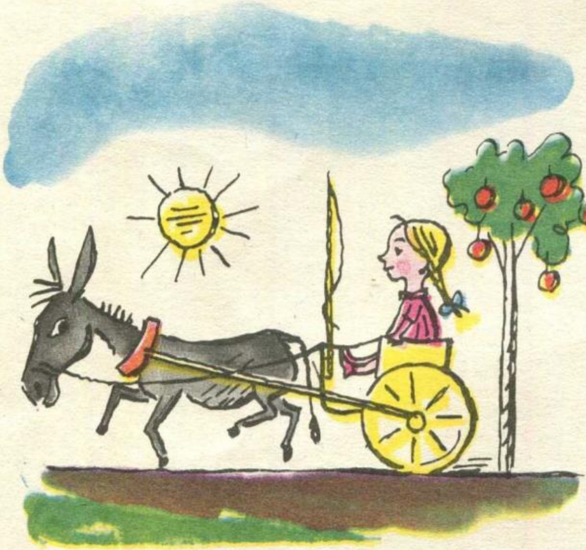
1. All the sparrows loved Masha. You can see why.

2. One day Masha was hanging up the wash. But she didn't know where the clothes-pins were.

3. Suddenly it got very windy. The wash will all be blown away, it'll fall down and get dirty! But what is that? Whose wings are flapping there?

4. Let the wind blow! The wash is safe now.

MASHA GOES TO TOWN



1. Grandma asked Masha to do the shopping in town. "I hope our donkey won't get balky," she said. "He does sometimes, you know."

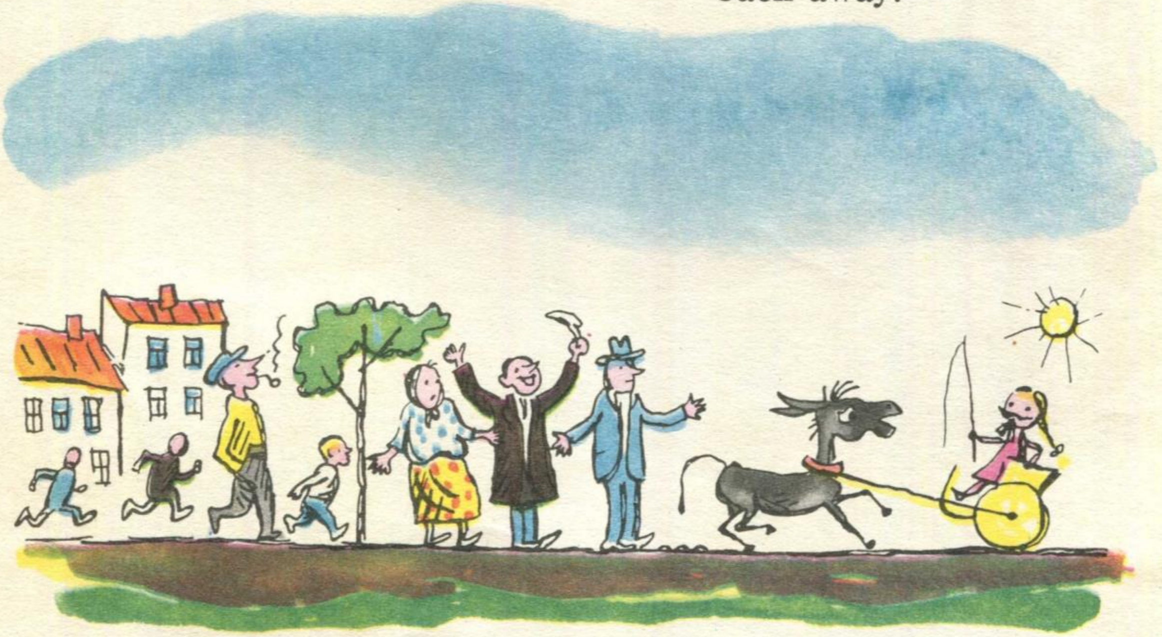
2. Sure enough. The donkey stopped in the middle of the road. He wouldn't budge.

3. Masha coaxed him in a nice voice. She shouted at him. Nothing helped.

4. "Don't say I didn't warn you!" Masha hitched the donkey to the cart backwards. He was very surprised.

5. Then Masha snipped off a bit of his mane. He was still more surprised.

6. When he saw a bearded, mustachioed creature with pigtails he was not only surprised, he was frightened and began to back away.



7. He kept on backing away till they reached town. You can imagine what the people there said when they saw such a sight!

MASHA COMES HOME IN THE RAIN

1 . . . .

2 . . . .

3 . . . .

MASHA, BOBIK AND THE STILTS

1. Everything was fine at first.

2. Then things got very bad.

3. "Help! I'm drowning!" cried Bobik.

4. "No, you're not," said Masha.

5. "Be patient."

6. Everything was fine again.

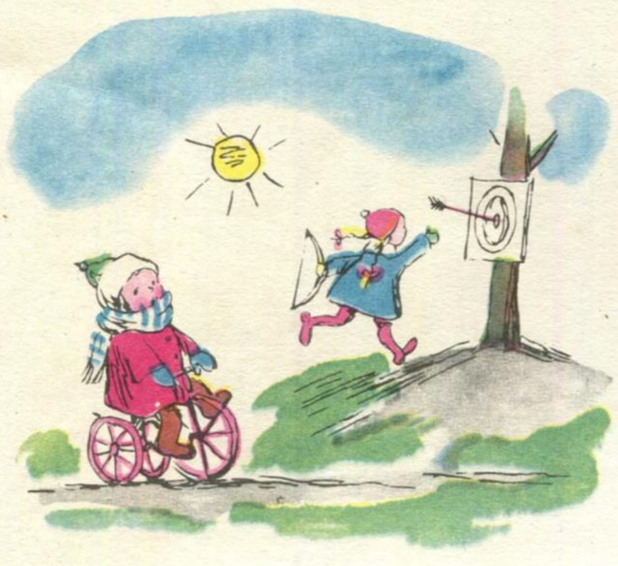
MASHA RAKES THE LEAVES

1. The orchard was very big. There were so many leaves. And the rake was heavy. Masha felt tired.

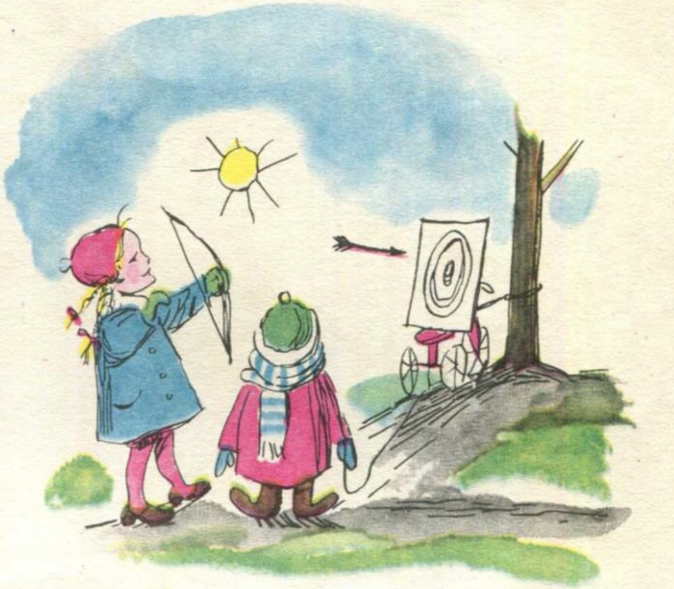
2. "I could help you," said Vitya, "but I don't know what to do." "I do!" said Masha and found a strong rope.

3. The paths are swept clean. Vitya is helping, while Masha can sit down and rest.

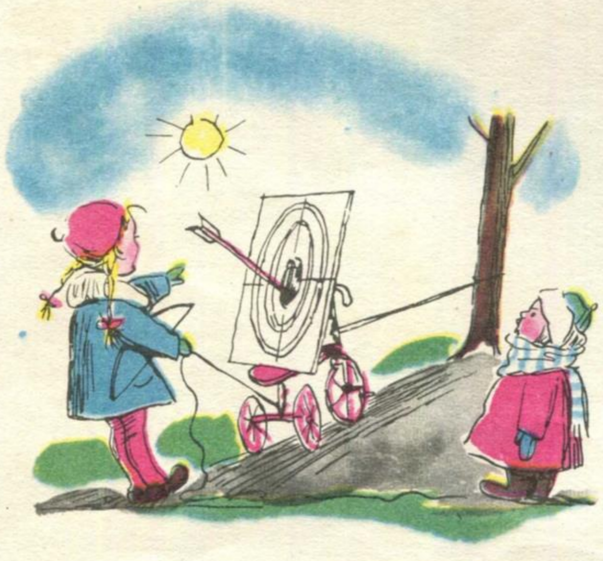
TARGET PRACTICE



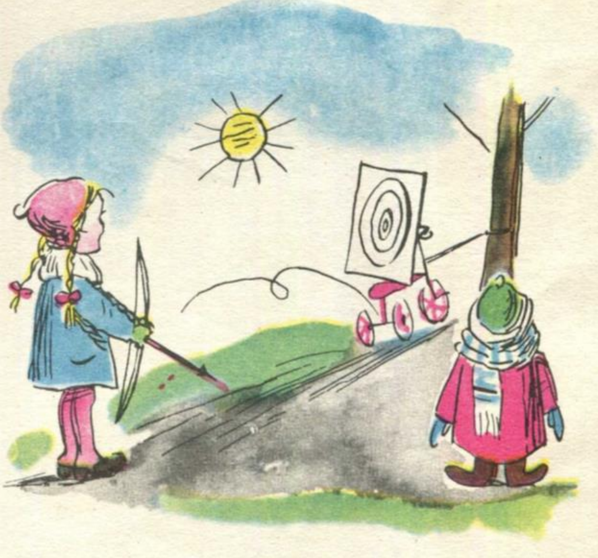
1. It's no fun to run back and forth to get your arrow.



2. But Vitya has a tricycle and Masha has a bit of string and an elastic band.



3. "Come to me, target!" Masha says and gets her arrow.



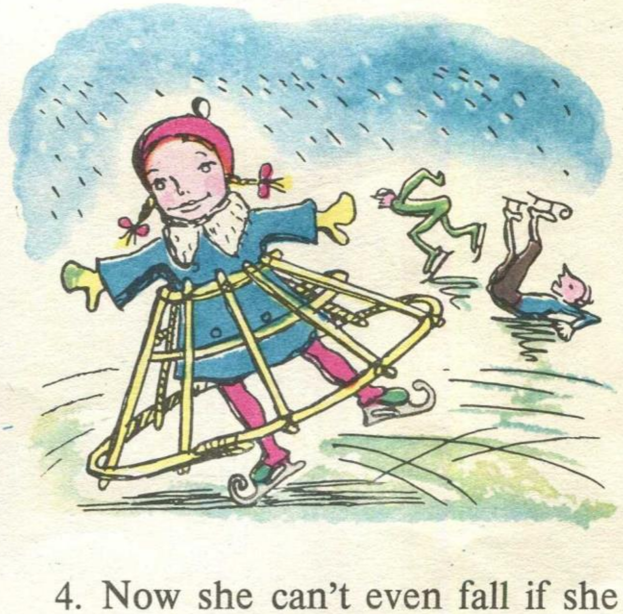
4. "Back in place, target!" Masha says and lets go of the string.

MASHA LEARNS TO SKATE

1. Masha put on her new skates.

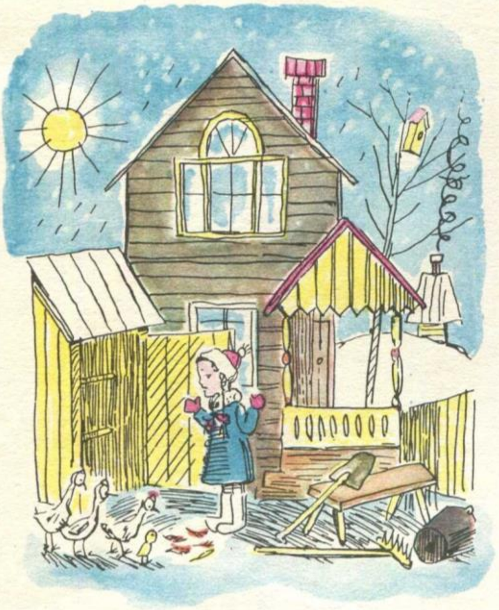
2. Do you think it's easy? Try not to fall the very first time!

3. After she had fallen four times in a row Masha had an idea.



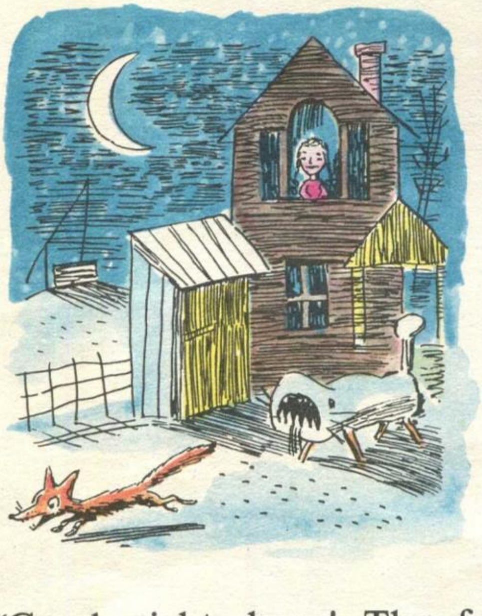
4. Now she can't even fall if she tries!

MASHA AND THE FOX

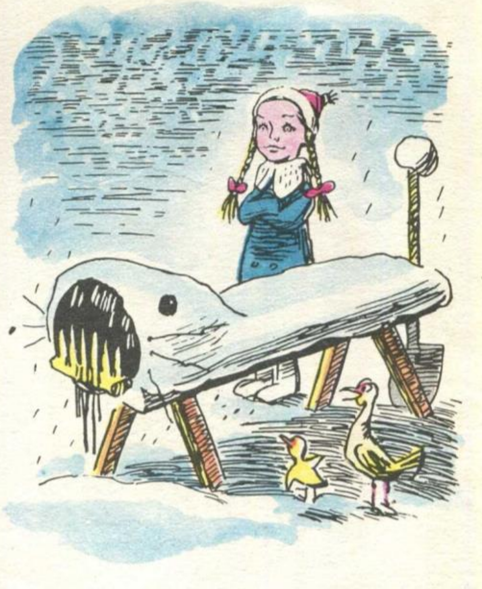


1. A fox found its way to the hen-house. It was after the hens.

2. "Give me an old pail, a rake and a spade, Grandma, and don't you worry," said Masha.



3. "Good night, hens! The fox won't scare you any more."



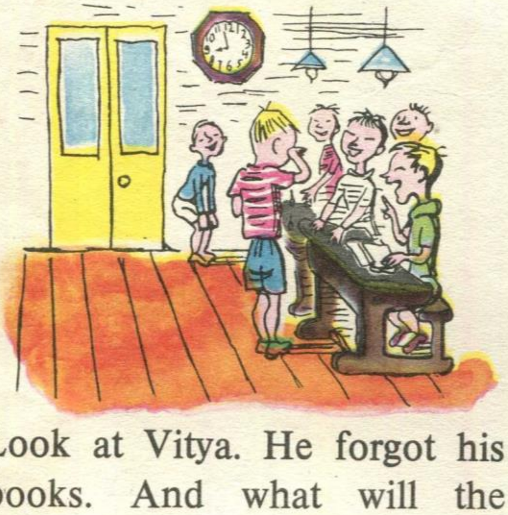
4. Indeed, the fox never came to Grandma's yard again.

MASHA, VITYA AND THE DOGS

1. "Oh, that Vitya! He went to school and left his books home!"

2. "Here, Bobik, Robik, Lobik and Zubik!" Masha called. "Hurry, hurry, hurry! You must help Vitya!"

3. Just look at these dogs. Can't you see that they're the very best, the fastest, the most obedient dogs that ever lived?



4. Look at Vitya. He forgot his books. And what will the teacher say? The door opens....

5. The door opens and Vitya is saved. Here are his books, his notebooks and even a note for him. Can you read what it says? Isn't that right?

Translated from the Russian by *Fainna Glagoleva*

PUBLISHED BY BROWN WATSON LTD. LONDON. BW/A.121. PRINTED IN USSR. © 1975. PROGRESS PUBLISHING CO. (MOSCOW)